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OEL-1553-63

12 AUG 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Science and Technology)

SUBJECT : Federal Aviation Agency Interest in  
25X1A Project [REDACTED] Type Equipment

1. Several months ago, Systems Research Laboratories received an invitation to bid on a problem presented by Mr. T. J. Simpson of the Federal Aviation Agency. The same invitation to bid and problem briefing was forwarded to many other concerns.

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2. Systems Research Laboratories recognized that the solution to the problem was the same equipment and technique as that employed in project [REDACTED]. They contacted [REDACTED], the [REDACTED] project officer, and the potential security problem was discussed. As a result of this discussion, a conference was held in May between Mr. T. J. Simpson of the Federal Aviation Agency, Mr. Johnson of Systems Research Laboratories, and [REDACTED] of this Agency. 25X1A

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3. Mr. Simpson explained in detail his requirements and in brief described a [REDACTED] system to be used to calibrate the Federal Aviation Agency traffic control radar. Mr. Simpson, who has a TS clearance, was advised of the development status of [REDACTED] and its sensitive nature but was not apprised of its operational use. He agreed to make further contact with [REDACTED] prior to any further action.

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4. Systems Research Laboratories was permitted to submit their proposal classified Secret in response to the invitation to bid. This proposal includes the [REDACTED] principles and is not much different from the proposal for an airborne [REDACTED] system which will be presented to CIA by them in the near future. A copy of the Systems Research Laboratories proposal which is now under consideration by Federal Aviation Agency is being forwarded to this Agency.

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5. On 31 July, [REDACTED] was informed by Mr. Simpson that other duties precluded his evaluation of the proposals until about 1 September 1963. Since the [REDACTED] program has been placed under wraps by the Deputy Director for Science and Technology, some guidance regarding further negotiation with Federal Aviation Agency must be provided to Systems Research Laboratories. The problems of concern are the duplication of effort by government agencies, the possible compromise of the [REDACTED] operations, and Federal Aviation Agency insistence that their operation remain unclassified. The fact that the Systems Research Laboratories proposal was presented classified Secret practically nullifies their chances of being awarded the contract.

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6. It is recommended that Systems Research Laboratories be permitted to declassify their proposal to the Federal Aviation Agency and that Federal Aviation Agency be advised to evaluate each proposal on its merits without consideration to the [REDACTED] project.

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/s/

George C. Miller

GEORGE C. MILLER  
Assistant Director for ELINT

CONCURRENCE:

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15/ [REDACTED]  
Assistant Director for Special Activities

Date 19 Aug 63

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S - EDB\BDD\OEF [REDACTED]  
25X1A I - OEF [REDACTED]  
S - VD\OEF  
I - VD\O2V

Original signed by  
E. B. Gitter

26 AUG 1963

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Distribution:

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